

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-03

SAJ-01 RSR-01 SS-15 NSC-10 /106 W

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R 231505Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1261

SECDEF

INFO USCINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

ALL NATO CAPITALS 3236

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 3955

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/79

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, MOPS, SP

SUBJ: NATO-SPANISH COOPERATION

REF: (A) STATE 149294; (B) USNATO 3199; (C) OSLO 2533

1. MISSION IS IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT WITH WASHINGTON'S WISH TO PRESS AHEAD, WHERE POSSIBLE, WITH CONCRETE STEPS AIMED AT FOSTERING COOPERATION BETWEEN NATO AND SPAIN. WE APPRECIATE TALKING POINTS PROVIDED PARA. 3, REF (A), AND WILL USE THEM AS APPROPRIATE IN FUTURE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER PERM REPS. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT THE DIFFICULTY HERE IS LESS ONE OF MISUNDERSTANDING OF OUR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES THAN IT IS OF DISAGREEMENT ON THE PART OF SOME NATO GOVERNMENTS WITH OUR POLICY OF BRINGING ABOUT CLOSER ALLIANCE COOPERATION WITH SPAIN.

2. WE HAVE NOTED EMBASSY OSLO'S VIEW (REF (C)) THAT REOPENING THIS SUBJECT IN NATO, EVEN IN A PERMREPS LUNCHEON CONFIDENTIAL

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DISCUSSION, WOULD BE UNWISE BEFORE MID-OCTOBER AT THE EARLIEST, WHEN A NEW NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT WILL BE IN POWER. PERM REPS LUNCHESES HERE HAVE BEEN DISCONTINUED UNTIL SEPT. 11, WHICH WE OBSERVE IS IMMEDIATELY AFTER SEPT. 10 NORWEGIAN

ELECTIONS. IN MEANTIME WE, LIKE EMBASSY OSLO, WOULD WELCOME WASHINGTON SUPPORT IN DEVELOPMENT OF ARGUMENTS FAVORING NATO COOPERATION WITH SPAIN. IN PARTICULAR, DETAILED MILITARY RATIONALE CONCERNING THE IMPORTANCE OF SPAIN TO THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE WOULD BE USEFUL.

3. WITH RESPECT TO PARAS. 1 AND 2 OF REF (A), WE ASSUME THAT WASHINGTON WILL NOW WISH TO ASK USEUCOM AND USNMR SHAPE FOR SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS AS TO POTENTIAL BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL NAVAL EXERCISES WHICH COULD INVOLVE SPAIN, AS WELL AS POSSIBLE VISITS BY SPANISH OBSERVERS TO NATO EXERCISES AND NADGE SITES. TO THAT END, WE ARE REPEATING REF (B) TO USCINCEUR, USLO SACLANT, USNMR SHAPE, AND USDOCOSOUTH. RUMSFELD

CONFIDENTIAL

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